



Date: 09/01/2020

To: Chair and Directors, Cariboo Regional District Board

And To: Choose an item.

From: John MacLean, Chief Administrative Officer

Date of Meeting: Cariboo Regional District Board_Jan17_2020

File: Maple Drive Streetlighting

Short Summary:

Maple Drive Streetlighting

Voting:

Corporate Vote - Unweighted

Memorandum:

On May 24, 2019, the Board of Directors adopted the following resolution at the request of Director Sjostrom (Electoral Area A):

“That the agenda item summary from Alice Johnston, Manager of Corporate Services/Deputy CAO, dated May 8, 2019, regarding a request from Director Sjostrom for the Board to support a feasibility study for streetlighting in the Maple Drive Corridor, be received. Further, that up to \$7,500 be approved for a feasibility study for streetlighting in this area.”

As background the Board may recall that the City of Quesnel was forced to restrict heavy vehicular traffic (i.e. logging trucks) on Johnson Bridge, due to an unfavourable engineering assessment. At this time the City is not planning any short to medium term changes that will open the bridge to all traffic. Due to this load restriction, the traffic flow changed, and industrial traffic accessing the West Fraser Plywood Plant started utilizing Maple Drive. This has led to an increase in traffic on Maple Drive, especially industrial traffic.

Compounding the situation is the upcoming construction of a new Middle School on Maple Drive, with construction starting in 2020. There will be approximately 900 students in the schools on Maple Drive.

Finally, a pedestrian was killed in a traffic incident along Maple Drive.

Cumulatively this has led to a call for streetlighting along Maple Drive to enhance the safety for pedestrians and the travelling public.

Maple Drive is a major thoroughfare in the Red Bluff area. It acts as a collector road between Highway 97 and Plywood Drive. There are approximately 135 properties that front onto Maple Drive.

The Board, mostly through the initiative of Director Sjostrom, has been advocating for the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to undertake the installation and maintenance of streetlighting along the Maple Drive Corridor. Thus far, they have refused, allowing only for the installation of pedestrian crosswalk infrastructure (please see the attached letter from Minister Claire Trevena).

At this point Director Sjostrom is asking for Board support to revisit the issue with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure and, failing success there, to approach stakeholders in the area to contribute to the capital cost of installing streetlights. At that point we would approach affected property owners to seek their assent to establish a new service for the provision of streetlighting.

Attachments:

- Map of the area
- Letter from the Honourable Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure

Financial Implications:

The Board has authorized feasibility funds for this initiative.

We do have some preliminary costing from BC Hydro on the installation of streetlights. Installations costs are in the neighborhood of \$95 per parcel, and ongoing maintenance would be approximately \$55 per parcel (based on 135 parcels).

Policy Implications:

N/A

Alignment with Strategic Plan:

- ☒ **Communication:** Facilitate communication strategies throughout the entire Cariboo Regional District that meet the needs of residents, community stakeholders, and other levels of government.
- ☒ **Planning:** Intentionally plan services and activities of the CRD to prepare for future needs of residents and community stakeholders.
- ☒ **Economic Sustainability:** Foster an environment to ensure the economic sustainability of CRD communities and the region.
- ☐ **Governance:** Ensure that CRD governance policy and practices are intentional, transparent, and respectful.

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CAO Comments:

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Options:

- 1) Endorse recommendation;
- 2) Receipt and other action;
- 3) Deferral;
- 4) Receipt only.

Recommendation:

That the agenda item summary from John M. MacLean, CAO, dated January 9, 2020, regarding the Maple Drive streetlighting project, be received. Further, that the Board endorse and confirm its support of the following:

1. That the traffic pattern changes on Maple Drive have negatively impacted on the safety of pedestrians and vehicular traffic along the Maple Drive Corridor, which could be at least mitigated through the installation of streetlights.
2. That the installation of streetlights to enhance safety along the corridor should be the responsibility of the Province of British Columbia through the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.
3. Failing the Province accepting their responsibility, that the Cariboo Regional District correspond with community, governmental, and industrial stakeholders, seeking contributions toward the capital costs of the installation of streetlights should the Regional District have to undertake this project as a new service.
4. That a public meeting be held in the Maple Drive area early this year to communicate our findings and proposal to the area residents.